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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: EDITORIAL IN THE IRISH INDEPENDENT JUNE 12, 1978

FOLLOWING EDITORIAL APPEARED IN THE IRISH INDEPENDENT JUNE 12, 1978 UNDER HEADING CARTER'S CAUTION:

PRESIDENT CARTER HAS SAID HIS PIECE ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOVIET UNION, AND AS EXPECTED THE SOVIETS HAVE THROWN BACK IN HIS FACE HIS OWN WORDS. THEY HAVE IGNORED HIS DELIBERATE CHOICE OF A MIDDLE WAY BETWEEN THE HAWKS AND THE DOVES IN HIS OWN CIRCLE, AND HAVE DECIDED THAT IT IS PRESIDENT CARTER WHO IS BEING "HAWKISH." THIS IS A POOR RETURN FOR CARTER - BUT HE ALMOST DESERVED IT, SO NAIVE WAS HE IN PLACES.

"TO THE SOVIET UNION," THE PRESIDENT SAID IN ONE PLACE, "DETENTE SEEMS TO MEAN A CONTINUING AGGRESSIVE STRUGGLE FOR POLITICAL ADVANTAGE AND INCREASED INFLUENCE, IN A VARIETY OF WAYS." THE "SEEM" HERE IS IMPORTANT, BECAUSE IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN OMITTED. IF PRESIDENT CARTER HAD READ THE TEXT BOOKS ON COMMUNISM HE WOULD HAVE GRASPED THE POINT THAT COMMUNISM, AND ESPECIALLY THE SOVIET UNION VARIETY OF IT, CAN ONLY THRIVE WHEN IT IS EXPORTED. THE
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COMMUNISTS OF THE SOVIET UNION HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED THIS ALTHOUGH THEY CONCEAL IT UNDER THE CLICHE THAT THE COMMUNIST PARTY IS THE VANGUARD OF THE PROLETARIAT AND MUST SHOW THE WAY TO THE MORE IGNORANT.

PRE-WAR STATESMEN MADE THE SAME MISTAKE WHEN THEY

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REFUSED TO TAKE HITLER'S "MEIN KAMPH" SERIOUSLY - AND THEN FOUND OUT THAT HE WAS DOING WHAT HE WROTE HE WOULD DO.

BUT THE WEST HAS BEEN SO OFTEN IN THE WRONG IN INTERNATIONAL MATTERS THAT IT IS EASY, IF CYNICAL, FOR THE RUSSIANS - THE INVADERS OF HUNGARY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND THE ANNIHILATORS OF SUCH PRE-WAR STATES AS LATVIA, ESTONIA AND LITHUANIA - TO CLAIM THAT MOSCOW IS A PEACE-LOVING CENTRE OF CONSTRUCTIVE ACTIVITIES. THE BIG LIE TOLD OFTEN ENOUGH AND WITH APPARENT CONVICTION SOMETIMES COMES TO BE ACCEPTED AS THE TRUTH.

WE ARE A LONG WAY OFF HEARING THE LAST WORD ON THIS IMPORTANT SUBJECT BEING UTTERED BY EITHER SIDE. THE WESTERN CASE MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO GO BY DEFAULT BECAUSE THE WEST IS AFRAID OF RUFFLING MOSCOW'S FEATHERS. SHE'S A TOUGH BIRD, AND GETTING TOUGHER. KRENE

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